



# Vocabulary

a play by Christine Béziat & Xavier Hock

# LEXICON

The explanations below are based on the vocabulary found in the **presentation of characters**, the **scene by scene outline** and in the **dialogues of the play** itself.

## CHARACTERS

**FAB:** Fabulous Artificial Bliss, can be confused with: “It’s fab!”: it’s fabulous, it’s great!

**The bliss:** the perfect happiness

**The sickness:** the illness

**The strike:** action usually taken by employees who decide to stop working and/or demonstrate to show their disagreement with the decisions taken about their sector.

## 04CR

**The powers that be:** the authorities

## 08GT

**To be the match for someone:** to be the person who corresponds perfectly to someone’s personality and expectations for a love relationship.

## THE DISCONNECTED

**Unbeknownst to Smiland citizens, a new world is created:** the citizens have no idea of the existence of this other world, it was created without them knowing

## INTRODUCTION

**You are so reckless:** you don’t care about the negative consequences an action could have.

## SCENE 1

**To watch over someone:** to guard, to protect, to be in charge of someone

**To flourish:** to develop oneself in a satisfactory and happy way, to blossom, to prosper

**FAB has everything planned out:** everything has been thought and is perfectly organised

**Prosperous families:** successful

**Your love life is sorted:** is organised, any problem regarding your love life has been solved

**FAB must have its reasons for choosing this fool:** this idiot

**You don’t do the assigned two hours of gym:** the gym exercises asked to be done

**You are always highly rated:** you have always received very positive feedback/evaluation

**04CR seems to know how to handle things! :** to deal with, to manage a specific situation

## SCENE 2

**To be orchestrated:** to be organised

**A retraining centre:** place where values or skills are taught so that the learners can fit in society afterwards.

**I was able to download these blueprints:** the plans, the maps

**I made a promise to overthrow FAB:** to defeat, to remove the people in charge

## SCENE 3

**To strive for:** to fight, struggle to achieve an objective

**The watchful eye of FAB:** vigilant, constantly supervising

## SCENE 4

**To keep up with:** to continue, to maintain

# LEXICON

**The workload:** all the professional tasks which need to be done  
**To set something in motion:** to begin, to take actions to make something happen  
**Work rates have risen again:** the rhythm at which a task is done  
**I can't take it anymore:** I can't deal with this situation anymore, from a physical and/or emotional point of view  
**We will be caught up within two days:** we will be able to compensate the late work  
**I have to do overtime:** to work more hours than asked at first  
**Look who arrived just in the nick of time:** just in time, almost late / at a critical moment  
**Work rates are skyrocketing:** are rising dramatically  
**A word to the wise, forget about that!:** way to announce a piece of advice is about to be given.

## SCENE 5

**A rehabilitation centre:** medical centre in which people suffering from an addiction are helped. **Here:** synonym of a retraining centre  
**That's mental:** that's crazy, it sounds insane  
**Smiland can easily single out people who are "different":** identify in a group

## SCENE 6

**She passed her socio-economic review:** She succeeded her test  
**There are downsides:** there are disadvantages  
**Commitment to FAB is the most important thing:** strong belief in, to behave so as to match the expectations of FAB  
**We are delighted to promote you to a higher social status:** extremely happy  
**It's the duty of every citizen:** legal or moral obligation

## SCENE 7

**The morning after the party hits hard:** to have a strongly negative impact  
**Someone has unplugged the terminal:** to disconnect an electrical device  
**We are housemates:** we are living together, sharing the same accommodation  
**Brown-noser!:** person who wants to be seen positively by people having authority and who tries to please them.  
**We need to figure this out:** to understand, to solve a problem  
**Stop your chit chatting:** talking in an informal way about things which are quite trivial  
**I'll have to betray my friends:** to harm deliberately someone who trusted you

## SCENE 8

**17FP is found guilty of displaying highly antisocial behaviour:** to show an inappropriate comportment, to behave in a way which is not suitable to live in society.  
**The FAB terminal was unplugged, on purpose!:** deliberately  
**I don't know what came over us:** I don't understand why we behaved in such a way / why we took this decision.

## SCENE 9

**In the most ingenious way:** in an intelligent and imaginative way  
**14DA gets away:** she escapes  
**14DA was completely fooled!:** 14DA fell into the trap, believed in the lies she was told and acted as expected.

## SCENE 10

**She has escaped the claws of Smiland:** The claws of a bird or animal are the thin and curved nails at the end of its feet. Here "claws" refers to the influence, the grip of FAB

# LEXICON

*She quickly befriends the Disconnecteds:* to become friends with  
*They call it Smogland:* “Smog” refers to air pollution, a mix of smoke and fog. It results we can’t distinguish things clearly.  
*We have a good laugh here!:* we are having fun.

## SCENE 11

*The Disconnecteds were organising their uprising:* rebellion, revolt  
*Everything is falling into place:* the events planned take place as expected

## SCENE 12

*They have decided to set things right:* to rearrange circumstances, to adapt a situation so that it corresponds to one’s ideas and hopes.  
*Would you ever stop with your awful dad jokes?:* unfunny jokes reminding one of comments/jokes told by middle aged people.  
*We will then go take down the Ogres:* to defeat  
*Our future is on the line:* at risk, endangered: we need to act in order to be safe in the future.

## SCENE 13

*The Disconnecteds will be none the wiser:* they won’t understand the situation anymore, will be confused not knowing what happened nor what to do.

## SCENE 14

*The masks have come off:* the truth has been revealed, nobody keeps pretending  
*The sinister scheme is now in place:* the evil project  
*The Smiland system has stifled them for years:* to make people suffocate / to restrain people’s actions.